CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1.   A method in a data processing system for managing rights to a service, the method comprising:

    receiving a request from a user for the service;

    identifying the rights to the service;

    retrieving content for the service;

    selectively modifying the content based on the rights identified; and

    sending the content to the user.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the content is at least one of a document, a graphical image, a Web page, an audio file, and data.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the service is at least one of a music service, a book service, and a stock research service.

4.   The method of claim 1, wherein the method is implemented in a service manifest.

5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the content is modified if a subscription to the service has expired.

6.   The method of claim 1, wherein the content is selectively modified based on a level of service subscribed to by the user.

7.   The method of claim 1, wherein attributes of the service selectively modified include at least one of a quality of the service, an immediacy of the service, and a predictability of the service.

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8. A method in a data processing system for managing rights to a service, the method comprising:

responsive to receiving a request for a service from a user, determining whether a subscription to the service by the user has expired;

5 responsive to a determination that the subscription has expired, selectively modifying the content to form a modified content; and

returning the modified content to the user.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the content is a music file.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the modified content includes noise added to the 10 music file.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein an amount of the noise added to the music file is based on when the subscription expired.

12. A method in a data processing system for managing a subscription computing service, the method comprising:

15 receiving a request from a user for the subscription computing service;

identifying rights to the subscription computing service based on an identification of the user; and

selectively modifying the subscription computing service based on the rights identified.

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13.   The method of claim 12, wherein the subscription computing service includes at least one of an on-line dash help desk, a backup service, and an application update service.

14.   A service delivery system comprising:

5   a database of users and rights associated with the users;

a service delivery unit, wherein the service delivery system retrieves content; and

a service manifest, wherein the service manifest selectively modifies the content based on a right to the content associated with a user requesting the content.

15.   The service delivery system of claim 14, wherein the service manifest includes a

10   set of processing paths used to modify content, wherein each processing path within the set of processing paths modifies the content in a different manner.

16.   The service delivery system of claim 14, when the database is located in a fulfillment subsystem.

17.   The service delivery system of claim 14, wherein the service manifest is a proxy

15   server.

18.   The service delivery system of claim 14, wherein the service manifest modifies the content based on a policy.

19.   A data processing system comprising:

a bus system;

20   a communications unit connected to the bus system;

a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to receive a request from a user for a service; identify the

5   rights to the service; retrieve content for the service; selectively modify the content based on the rights identified; and send the content to the user.

20.   A data processing system comprising:

a bus system;

a communications unit connected to the bus system;

10   a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to determine whether a subscription to a service by a user has expired in response to receiving a request for the service from the user; selectively

15   modify content to form a modified content in response to a determination that the subscription has expired; and return the modified content to the user.

21.   A data processing system comprising:

a bus system;

a communications unit connected to the bus system;

20   a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to receive a request from a user for a subscription computing service; identify rights to a subscription computing service based on an identification of a user; and selectively modify the subscription computing service based

5   on the rights identified.

22.   A data processing system for managing rights to a service, the data processing system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a request from a user for the service;

identifying means for identifying the rights to the service;

10   retrieving means for retrieving content for the service;

modifying means for selectively modifying the content based on the rights identified; and

sending means for sending the content to the user.

23.   The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the content is at least one of a

15   document, a graphical image, a Web page, an audio file, and data.

24.   The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the service is at least one of a music service, a book service, and a stock research service.

25.   The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the method is implemented in a service manifest.

20   26.   The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the content is modified if a subscription to the service has expired.

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27. The data processing system of claim 22, wherein the content is selectively modified based on a level of service subscribed to by the user.

28. A data processing system for managing rights to a service, the data processing system comprising:

5   determining means, responsive to receiving a request for a service from a user, for determining whether a subscription to the service by the user has expired;

modifying means, responsive to a determination that the subscription has expired, for selectively modifying the content to form a modified content; and

returning means for returning the modified content to the user.

10   29. The data processing system of claim 28, wherein the content is a music file.

30. The data processing system of claim 29, wherein the modified content includes noise added to the music file.

31. The data processing system of claim 30, wherein an amount of the noise added to the music file is based on when the subscription expired.

15   32. A data processing system for managing a subscription computing service, the data processing system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a request from a user for the subscription computing service;

identifying means for identifying rights to the subscription computing service

20   based on an identification of the user; and

modifying means for selectively modifying the subscription computing service based on the rights identified.

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33.   The data processing system of claim 32, wherein the subscription computing service includes at least one of an on-line dash help desk, a backup service, and an application update service.

34.   A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing rights to a service, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for receiving a request from a user for the service;

second instructions for identifying the rights to the service;

third instructions for retrieving content for the service;

fourth instructions for selectively modifying the content based on the rights identified; and

fifth instructions for sending the content to the user.

35.   The computer program product of claim 34, wherein the content is at least one of a document, a graphical image, a Web page, an audio file, and data.

36.   The computer program product of claim 34, wherein the service is at least one of a music service, a book service, and a stock research service.

37.   The computer program product of claim 34, wherein the method is implemented in a service manifest.

38.   The computer program product of claim 34, wherein the content is modified if a subscription to the service has expired.

39. The computer program product of claim 34, wherein the content is selectively modified based on a level of service subscribed to by the user.

40. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing rights to a service, the computer program product comprising:

5   first instructions, responsive to receiving a request for a service from a user, for determining whether a subscription to the service by the user has expired;

     second instructions, responsive to a determination that the subscription has expired, for selectively modifying the content to form a modified content; and

     third instructions for returning the modified content to the user.

10 41. The computer program product of claim 40, wherein the content is a music file.

42. The computer program product of claim 41, wherein the modified content includes noise added to the music file.

43. The computer program product of claim 42, wherein an amount of the noise added to the music file is based on when the subscription expired.

15 44. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing a subscription computing service, the computer program product comprising:

     first instructions for receiving a request from a user for the subscription computing service;

     second instructions for identifying rights to the subscription computing service

20 based on an identification of the user; and

     third instructions for selectively modifying the subscription computing service based on the rights identified.

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45. The computer program product of claim 44, wherein the subscription computing service includes at least one of an on-line dash help desk, a backup service, and an application update service.